rather alarming because India, which was rated 100 in rank in 2007 has dropped down to 105 in 2008, out of 129 countries. Eduction is of top priority, and we appreciate all the efforts the Government has made towards this in the past few years through SSA and other schemes. Even the Report has complimented the Government on SSA and KGBV. The net enrolment has gone up; the adult literacy has also gone up. But there are three very crucial issues, as the drop-out rate does not seem to come down. It is still 14.7 per cent in Class I. And it is 4.4 per cent in the Second and the Third standards. The United Nations' goal for 2015 of 'Education for All' also focuses on female literacy which is very alarming. Yesterday, the HRD Minister, in his speech, said 774 million illiterate people are there in the world, out of which 250 million are in our country alone. Sir, we are all seriously concerned about it. We appreciate all the efforts that the Government has made. Still, I think, a little more has to be done as eduction is the defining line between the haves and the have-nots. We urge the Government to take serious cognizance of this report.

**श्री कलराज मिश्र** (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी इसका समर्थन करता हूं।

**श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद** (बिहार): महोदय, मैं भी इससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूं।

**श्री दिनेश त्रिवेदी** (पश्चिमी बंगाल): महोदय, मैं इससे एसोसिएट करता हूं। ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think, the entire House associates itself with this mention.

SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Thank you, Sir, for the encouragement.

## Reported Remarks made by A Malaysian Minister Against the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDARAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the ethnic Indian community in Malaysia went on a peaceful rally demanding certain affirmative action in Malaysia. They were ill-treated, harassed and arrested. This has been condemned by various leaders in Tamil Nadu. This hon. House also debated the issue yesterday. It is a very serious concern for our country because Indians, particularly Tamils, are suffering there. sir, this issue has also attracted international attention. Now, when the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu drew attention of the hon. Prime Minister, which is an internal matter concerning certain Indians who are there in Malaysia, that statement of the hon. Chief Minister was condemned by a Malaysian Minister, one Mr. Nasir Aziz. Sir, this is highly condemnable. The Malaysian Minister has no business to comment about the democratic rights and the democratic values which are practised in this country and to comment about what has been expressed by an elected Chief Minister of this country. *(Interruptions)*

**प्रो॰ राम देव भंडारी** (बिहार): महोदय, मैं इससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूं।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All of us associate ourselves with this. *(Interruptions)* Please. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDARAM: Therefore, Sir, we urge the Government to take appropriate action. We cannot lose our self-respect and continue diplomatic relations with a country which does not respect our democratic values. Sir, we are not a mock democracy *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Gnanadesikan. (*Interruptions*)

**श्री एस॰ एस॰ अहलुवालिया** (झारखंड): महोदय, मलेशिया के राजदूत को बुलाकर उसकी भर्त्सना करनी चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री मंगनी लाल मंडल (बिहार): महोदय ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: One minute. *(Interruptions)* He has given the notice. *(Interruptions)* Don't show the paper. *(Interruptions)* He has given the notice. *(Interrupions)* I have identified him. *(Interruptions)*

श्री मंगनी लाल मंडल: महोदय ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: आप बैठिए, आप केवल एसोसिएट कीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)... देखिए, उन्होंने नोटिस दिया है ...(व्यवधान)... मंडल जी, आप बैठिए न। देखिए, ...(व्यवधान)... मैंने उनको आइडेंटिफाइ किया है। ...(व्यवधान)... वन मिनट, बैठिए न। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री एस॰ एस॰ अहलुवालिया: सर, तीन दिन पहले हमारे सांसद श्री बाल आपटे जी ने यह रेज किया था। अभी तक विदेश मंत्रालय से बयान आना चाहिए था। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: नहीं-नहीं, बैठिए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री एस॰ एस॰ अहलुवालिया: इसपर सदन में बयान आना चाहिए था जिसको तीन दिन हो गए हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I know the sentiments of the House. *(Interruptions)* Please. I have identified him and he has given the notice. *(Interruptions)* Mr. Narayanasamy, he has given the notice. *(Interruptions)* One minute.

श्री एस॰ एस॰ अहलुवालिया: महोदय, ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We had raised it yesterday also. Please sit down. *(Interruptions)* Let me first call the Member who has given the notice. *(Interruptions)* Please. Mr. Gnanadesikan. Just one minute, please.

SHRI B.S. GNANADESIKAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I know the *Lakshman rekha;* we cannot interfere in the internal affairs of other countries. But when we talk about it as a friendly country, the Minister of that country also must be a friend of India. Sir, the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has not uttered anything; he had only expressed the anguish and pain of the sufferings of the ethnic Indians, particularly the Tamils, in Malaysia. He has not transgressed diplomatic decency. He has only written a letter to the Prime Minister of this country requesting him to take up the matter, through diplomatic channels, with Malaysia. But, for this, he has been snubbed and asked to 'lay off'. We strongly object to it. The Government of India must take up the matter, through diplomatic channels, with the Government of Malaysia, and convey how strongly Indians feel about the conduct of this Minister. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Minister wants to respond. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Puducherry): Sir, I want to say just one sentence. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu is a constitutional authority. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, the Malaysian High Commissioner should be called in the External Affairs Ministry...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: The hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has written to the hon. Prime Minister, through proper channel, showing his anguish and agony about the happenings there. But, Sir, the Malaysian Minister who has nothing to do with the incident

cannot make unncecessary comments against the hon. Chief Minister who is a constitutional authority. Therefore, Sir,...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री उपसभापति:** आपको भी बोलने दिया गया। ...(**व्यवधान**)... आपको भी बोलने दिया गया है। ...(**व्यवधान**)... देखिए, अहलुवालिया साहब बोले, मैंने उनको अलाऊ किया। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Therefore, the Government of India should take it up with the Malaysian Government showing the concern of the Government of India against the unnecessary comments made by the Malaysian Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Minister.

SHRI AMAR SINGH (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, this is a very serious matter. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister wants to respond. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री एस॰ एस॰ अहलुवालिया:** सर, पिछले तीन दिन से यह मसला उठ रहा है। ...(**व्यवधान**)... परसों भी उठा, कल भी उठा, किन्तु विदेश मंत्रालय को कम से कम एक बयान देना चाहिए। हम लोगों के जो भारतीय वहां पर हैं, चाहे वह तमिलियन हों, चाहे वह सिख हों, चाहे बिहारी हों, चाहे कोई भी हों। वे लोग भारतवासी हैं, उनकी सुरक्षा होना जरूरी है। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

**श्री अमर सिंह:** सर, यह बहुत ही गंभीर विषय है। ...(**व्यवधान**)... सर, यह भारतीय मूल के लोगों का अपमान है। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR: Sir, the Malaysian High Commissioner should be called...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir,...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Narayanasamy, please allow others also to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD (Bihar): How can a Minister use such a language? ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, how can a Minister of Malaysia say, 'shut up' 'keep off'? It is completely undiplomatic, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*... India is a big country....*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री अमर सिंह:** सर, राजदूत को बुलाया जाये और उसको बुलाकर फटकारा जाये। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

AN HON. MEMBER: They are Malaysians; they may be of Indian origin. But, they are Malaysians. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री मंगनी लाल मंडल:** सर, सरकार ने जब संज्ञान लिया था और कल के बाद आज बयान आया है, उसमें करुणानिधि जी की निंदा की गई है, उनकी आलोचना की गई है, यह एक गंभीर मामला है। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

**श्री उपसभापति:** मंत्री जी कुछ बोलना चाहते हैं, आप उनको भी अलाऊ कीजिए। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

**श्री अमर सिंह:** सर, सवाल सिर्फ करुणानिधि का नहीं है, सवाल भारतीय मूल के लोगों का है। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

**श्री मंगनी लाल मंडल:** वहां के पृथकतावादी संगठन ने कहा है कि भारतीय मूल के लोगों का सफाया कर देंगे, यह और भी गंभीर मामला है। यह मामला तमिल लोगों का नहीं है, यह भारत के लोगों का मामला है। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

**श्री उपसभापति:** मिस्टर मंडल जी, आप बैठ जाइये। मंत्री जी। Mr. Suresh Pachouri, if you want to respond.

कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत और पेंशन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुरेश पचौरी): सम्मानित उपसभापति महोदय, मलेशिया में रह रहे भारतीयों के साथ जिस प्रकार का दुर्व्यवहार का जिक्र यहां सदन में हुआ है, यह निश्चित रूप से निंदनीय है। इस संबंध में, भारत सरकार की ओर से, इस मैटर को डिप्लोमैटिक चैनल के जरिए मलेशियन गवर्नमेंट के साथ टेक-अप किया जा रहा है। चूंकि यह मामला अत्यंत गंभीर है, इसलिए मैं माननीय सदस्यों के प्रति सम्मान व्यक्त करते हुए, उन्हें यह अवगत कराना चाहूंगा कि इस संबंध में क्या हुआ है, इसकी जानकारी संबंधित मंत्री सदन को दें।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we take up the Legislative Business, the Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Petroleum Technology Bill, 2007. Shri Murli Deora to move the Motion.

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## GOVERNMENT BILL

### The Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Petroleum Technology Bill, 2007

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): Sir, I move:

> "That the Bill to declare the institution known as the Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Petroleum Technology to be an institution of national importance and to provide for its incorporation and matters connected therewith, be taken into consideration"

Sir, the Government introduced the Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Petroleum Technology Bill, 2007 in the Rajya Sabha on 7th September, 2007.

I would like to apprise the hon'ble Members about the need of setting up of Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Petroleum Technology and its declaration as the "Institute of National Importance". The year 1999 witnessed the advent of the New Exploration Licensing Policy, which has been progressively made more and more attractive. This policy has evoked great enthusiasm among foreign companies as well as Indian private and public sector companies for acquiring exploration acreages in India. As on date, only 30% of the sedimentary basins in India has been explored. It is planned to increase the exploration coverage to an extent of 100% by the year 2015. In this context, apart from technology, availability of adequate number of qualified personnel would be a prime requirement in the coming years.

Sir, in a recent study conducted by consultant Pricewaterhouse Coopers for Petrofed, it is estimated that the gap between the availability and requirement of trained manpower in the field of Petroleum Technology in India would be about 3600 by the year 2019. To substantially meet the shortfall of trained manpower in the petroleum sector, it has been decided by the Government to set up Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Petroleum Technology (RGIPT) at Jais, UP.

The institute is designed to serve as the fountainhead for the nurturing of world class technical human resources capable of serving as the leaders and innovators of tommorow in the field of Petroleum Technology. To start with, the Institute will commence its academic operations by admitting students in basic undergraduate courses from the academic year 2008-09, from a rented campus. On its becoming fully operational the Institute world have 7 B.Tech, 6 Integrated Masters Degrees, 8 M. Tech/MBA and 12 PGD and Ph. D. programmes.

The total estimated capital cost of the project is Rs. 435 crores which would be met partially through budgetary support of Rs. 285 crores and Rs. 150 crores from Oil Industry Development Board. The total estimated recurring expenditure of Rs. 260.58 crores would be met from the accrual of interest on Endowment Fund of Rs. 250.00 crores to be created